

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior version, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Original) A delegation method, implemented in a delegation system, comprising the steps of:

providing delegation policies as general rules for limiting delegation;

receiving a delegation condition and a delegation approval submitted by a

grantor for vesting authority of the grantor's role to a grantee, wherein the

grantor's role is designated the authority to access a set of data; and

determining consequent authority vested to the grantee based on the delegation

approval, the delegation condition and the delegation policies.

2. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the delegation condition is presented in extensible markup language (XML).

3. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the delegation condition comprises a static condition for limiting the vested authority.

4. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein the static condition comprises at least a total time condition, a time condition, a location condition or a function condition.

5. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the delegation condition comprises a dynamic condition for limiting the vested authority.

6. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 5, wherein the dynamic condition comprises at least a session condition or a group condition.

7. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, further comprising the steps of:
storing the vested consequent authority as consequent delegation information;
creating a temporary role according to the consequent delegation information
using a role-based system; and
designating the temporary role to the grantee.

8. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the determining step further comprises the steps of:
determining whether the delegation condition satisfies the delegation policies;
adjusting the delegation condition to the delegation policies when the delegation condition does not satisfy the delegation policies; and
acquiring a consequent delegation condition, where the consequent delegation condition comprises, when the delegation condition does not satisfy the delegation policies, the adjusted delegation condition or, when the delegation condition satisfies the delegation policies, comprises the delegation condition.

9. (Original) The method as claimed in claim 8, further comprising the steps of:
determining whether usage of the set of data satisfies the consequent delegation
condition; and
retracting the vested authority when usage of the set of data does not satisfy the
consequent delegation condition.

10. (Original) A delegation device, comprising:
a memory storing delegation policies as general rules for limiting delegation;
a receiving unit for receiving a delegation condition and a delegation approval
submitted by a grantor for vesting authority of the grantor's role to a
grantee, wherein the grantor's role is designated the authority to access a
set of data; and
a processing unit for determining consequent authority vested to the grantee
based on the delegation approval, the delegation condition and the
delegation policies.

11. (Original) The device as claimed in claim 10, wherein the delegation condition
comprises a static condition for limiting the vested authority.

12. (Original) The device as claimed in claim 10, wherein the delegation condition
comprises a dynamic condition for limiting the vested authority.

13. (Original) The device as claimed in claim 10, wherein the processing unit further determines whether the delegation condition satisfies the delegation policies, adjusts the delegation condition to the delegation policies when the delegation condition does not satisfy the delegation policies, and acquires a consequent delegation condition, where the consequent delegation condition comprises, when the delegation condition does not satisfy the delegation policies, the adjusted delegation condition or, when the delegation condition satisfies the delegation policies, comprises the delegation condition.

14. (Original) The device as claimed in claim 13, wherein the processing unit further determines whether usage of the set of data satisfies the consequent delegation condition, and retracting the vested authority when usage of the set of data does not satisfy the consequent delegation condition.

15. (Original) A machine-readable storage medium storing a computer program which, when executed, directs a computer to perform a delegation method, comprising the steps of:

receiving a delegation condition and a delegation approval submitted by a grantor for vesting authority of the grantor's role to a grantee, wherein the grantor's role is designated the authority to access a set of data; reading delegation policies as general rules for limiting delegation; and determining consequent authority vested to the grantee based on the delegation approval, the delegation condition and the delegation policies.

16. (Original) The machine-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 15, wherein the delegation condition comprises a static condition for limiting the vested authority.

17. (Original) The machine-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 15, wherein the delegation condition comprises a dynamic condition for limiting the vested authority.

18. (Original) The machine-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 15, wherein the delegation method further comprises the steps of:

- storing the vested consequent authority as consequent delegation information;
- creating a temporary role according to the consequent delegation information
 - using a role-based system; and
- designating the temporary role to the grantee.

19. (Original) The machine-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 15, wherein the determining step further comprises the steps of:

- determining whether the delegation condition satisfies the delegation policies;
- adjusting the delegation condition to the delegation policies when the delegation condition does not satisfy the delegation policies; and
- generating a consequent delegation condition, where the consequent delegation condition comprises, when the delegation condition does not satisfy the

delegation policies, the adjusted delegation condition or, when the delegation condition satisfies the delegation policies, comprises the delegation condition.

20. (Original) The machine-readable storage medium as claimed in claim 19, wherein the delegation method further comprises the steps of:

- determining whether usage of the set of data satisfies the consequent delegation condition; and
- retracting the vested authority when usage of the set of data does not satisfy the consequent delegation condition.